

Preliminary Amendment - H. SUDO et al.
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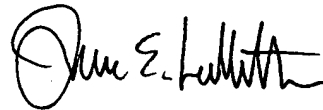
REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment eliminates the multiple dependent claim status of claims 7 and 8 in order to avoid the multiple dependent claim surcharge.

New claims 17 and 18 are added in order to recapture the subject matter deleted in the amendment to claims 7 and 8.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JEL/lmq

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